

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 SAM-01 /053 W

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R 121739Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6628

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

REF: PARIS 01512

1. LABATT HAD RECENTLY OPPORTUNITY TO READ NINE-PAGE REPORT ON INTERSINDICAL BY LAURENT LUCAS, FRENCH REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE FOR SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. REPORT FOCUSES ESPECIALLY ON THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT THE DRAFT TRADE UNION LAW AND APPARENT VICTORY IN THIS CONNECTION BY PCP.

2. REPORT BEARS STRIKING SIMILARITY IN ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF LABOR SCENE TO THAT ABLY REPORTED FROM EMBASSY LISBON. FOR EXAMPLE, LUCAS QUESTIONS VALIDITY OF COMMUNIST CLAIMS THAT OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WORKERS SUPPORTED THE DRAFT LAW OR THAT INTERSINDICAL SPEAKS FOR ENTIRE LABOR MOVEMENT. HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO DISTINCTION TO BE MADE BETWEEN "UNITY"

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(UNITE) AS REFLECTED IN PROVISION FOR A SINGLE

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND "UNITY" (UNICITE) IN THE FORM OF SINGLE UNION AFFILIATION WITH NATIONAL CENTER FROM EACH WORK SITE THUS ALLOWING FOR EXISTENCE OF OTHER UNIONS EVEN IF NOT AFFILIATED.

3. REPORT EXPRESSES THE VIEW THAT AS PORTUGUESE WORKERS BECOME MORE INTERESTED AND ACTIVE IN UNION AFFAIRS THE TREND AWAY FROM POLITICS AND TOWARDS BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES WILL INCREASE. ON THE WHOLE, TONE OF REPORT IS RATHER OPTIMISTIC FOR THE LONG RUN REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC LABOR MOVEMENT IN PORTUGAL WITHOUT MINIMIZING COMMUNIST ABILITY TO MANIPULATE RANK AND FILE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE NEW LABOR LAW.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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